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Elections to district boards.

* 512 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state when the elections to the district boards in this State will be held?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—"According to the existing arrangements, proceedings for the conduct of elections to district boards will be commenced by the end of August 1954 and completed by the first week of October 1954."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—"May I know whether the district board elections will be conducted under the existing voting system or the Government are going to introduce a new system?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—"They are going to introduce a different system."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—"வோட்டிங் முறையில் ஏதோ மாறுதல் இருக்கப்போகிறது என்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் அறிவித்தார்கள். அவர் குறிப்பிட்ட மாறுதல் என்ன என்பதையும், அப்படிப்பட்ட மாறுதலுக்குக் காரணம் என்ன என்பதையும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் விளக்கும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—"It is still under consideration."

'Ryan Scheme.'

* 513 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(*a*) how many new handloom co-operative societies have come into being in the State as a result of the 'Ryan Scheme' up to date;

(*b*) how many weavers have been benefited by the scheme;

(*c*) the amount that has been spent in working the scheme; and

(*d*) how much more money the Government propose to spend on this scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"(*a*) Two societies.

"(*b*) About 71,870 weavers have been benefited, as 14,374 looms were admitted in the co-operative societies under the scheme, each loom giving benefit on an average to five persons.

"(*c*) The scheme was wound up on 1st February 1954. Time till 30th April 1954 has been granted to the societies for disposing of the cloth produced under the scheme. Recoupment of the business losses incurred by societies in working the scheme has been guaranteed by the Government. The total

expenditure on the scheme will be known only after 30th April 1954, as the exact amount of the loss to be reimbursed to the societies will be known only after the cloth has been disposed of.

"(*d*) Barring the payment of the amount to compensate the loss already incurred under the scheme, no fresh expenditure on the scheme will be incurred."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—"May I know, Sir, the reason for suspending the scheme and what alternative schemes have been introduced by the Government to benefit the handloom workers?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"Sir, another scheme has been introduced. The expenditure on this scheme would be met from out of the funds of the Mill-cloth Cess Fund. The other scheme has been given up."

DR. K. B. MENON :—"Sir, may I know something about the much advertised Ryan Scheme and may I also know what percentage of overheads are involved in this scheme?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"In June 1952, the Government sanctioned a scheme for affording immediate relief through the agency of co-operative societies to weavers who were affected by the slump in the Handloom Trade. The scheme assured the weavers continuous employment and a subsistence wage. It also relieved them from the burden of marketing cloth produced by them. It effected the revival of the weavers' co-operative societies which had stopped functioning as a result of the slump in the handloom trade and made it possible for weavers outside the co-operative fold to join the existing or new primary weavers' co-operative societies by paying share capital from a loan of Rs. 25 granted to each of them which was repayable in 12 monthly instalments.

There were certain other features of the scheme which I would like to give to hon. Members. Weavers were paid a subsistence wage not exceeding six annas per knot. All weavers who were anxious to join the co-operative societies were admitted into them. The Government guaranteed to make good the business losses incurred by the societies in working the scheme if the losses arose out of fluctuations in prices of handloom cloth, marketing conditions, etc. The Government sanctioned a loan of Rs. 5 lakhs towards the payment of interest-free advances to weavers for payment of share capital. A loan of Rs. 35 lakhs was granted to the Madras State Co-operative Bank for making advances to the District Co-operative Central Banks which were financing the primary societies working the scheme. The District Co-operative Central Banks were authorized to advance loans to the weavers' co-operative societies for the purchase of yarn and for the payment of wages, at the rate of Rs. 65 per loom,

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the repayment of loans being guaranteed by the Government. The Madras State Co-operative Bank also earmarked a sum **of Rs. 15** lakhs from its own resources for financing the scheme.''

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—'' The Hon. Minister stated that two societies came into existence under the Ryan Scheme. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is a society under that Scheme in Malabar district? If not, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state why the weavers in Malabar did not get the benefit of the scheme? ''

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' The scheme was in operation for only a short period and it gave place to another scheme. Therefore, I am unable to give the particular reasons why the society did not function in Malabar.''

Sri S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—'' The scheme, which is rather the pet child of Mr. Ryan having failed within a few months of its birth, what are the Government going to do with the officer who was responsible for implementing this scheme? ''

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Sir, I cannot admit that the scheme failed. Under the scheme 14,374 looms were admitted into the weavers' co-operative societies and it is estimated that on an average five persons benefited for every loom admitted, namely, 71,870 weavers were benefited by the scheme.''

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—'' If the Scheme had not failed as was stated by the Hon. Minister for Labour, what were the special difficulties found in the working of the scheme? **Why** was it dropped? And what are the special features of the new scheme which has come into operation in the place of the old scheme? ''

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Sir, this scheme was designed in order to meet an emergency situation. There was a serious slump in the handloom trade and weavers found it impossible to carry on their trade and profession. Therefore, as an emergency measure, this scheme was introduced. It served a particular purpose. Then the scheme financed by the mill-cloth cess fund came into existence. The other scheme was, therefore, terminated.''

Sri T. S. ARDHANARI :—'' புதிய திட்டப்படி பல இடங்களில் புதிய கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்கள் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. தொழிலாளிகள் ரூ. 18¾ கட்டியும் கூட, கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்கள் நடைபெறுமலிருப்பது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ? ''

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' I would like to have notice, Sir. I would also request the hon. Member to give me particulars so that I may look into them.''

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SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, will the Government be pleased to place details of the new scheme at least before the House so that they can have the opinion of the House as well and also avoid the fate that overtook the Ryan Scheme? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I would again like to state that no ill fate attended the Ryan Scheme and if the hon. Member would put a specific question, I would place on the table of the House, the particulars **about** the new scheme."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, கூட்டுறவு சொஸைடிகளில் கணக்குப் பார்ப்பவர்களுக்கு . அதிகப்படியான ரூபாய் கொடுக்கவேண்டியிருப்பதால் நஷ்டமேற்படுகிறது. ஆகையால் ஆடிட்செய்யும் பீஸைக் குறைப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் முன்வருமா ?"

*Delimitation of Assembly and Parliamentary **constituencies.***

* 514 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have made any fresh delimitation proposals to the Election Commission regarding Assembly and Parliamentary constituencies of the State; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the proposals on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, are we to understand that the Government at no stage of the de-limitation proposal had anything to do with them? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Till now, we had nothing to do with that. Now we have to give our suggestions also."

Representations from the Tile Workers' Union, Feroke, Malabar.

* 515 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum, dated 9th December 1953, from the Secretary, Tile Workers' Union, Feroke, Malabar district, requesting the Government (1) to constitute a court of enquiry to go into the conditions of the tile industry and tile workers of Malabar and South Kanara; (2) to set up an adjudication court to go into the question of the payment of wages for days of enforced idleness during the year 1952–53 and to implement the adjudication award for constituting an old-age benefit fund, etc.; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?